

The use of hyperbaric oxygen to modify the effects of recent contusion injury to the spinal cord.

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Abstract

Studies on the experimental spinal contusion injury in animals confirm that posttraumatic ischemia contributes to central cystic necrosis or fibrosis occurring at the level of the spinal cord lesion. Hyperbaric oxygen (HBO) modifies the degree and extent of the pathology in the spinal cord of the experimental animals. HBO has been used for 45 patients with recent spinal cord injuries. The extent of recovery in 27 patients with upper motor neuron lesions treated with adequate HBO is reported. Fifteen of the 27 patients had useful functional recovery.

<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/6545681>